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July 17, 2003

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: ex parte communication, WT Docket 02-100

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The following representatives of Anne Arundel County, Maryland met with staff of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau yesterday to share views about continuing wireless carrier cooperation in mitigation of interference to the County's 800 MHz radio system, as called for in the Order of the Bureau Chief, DA 03-2196, released July 7, 2003:

Linda Schuett, County Attorney; Judy Coenen, Chief of the IT Department; Police Chief Tom Shanahan; Jay Cuccia, Communications Officer, IT; Jeff Martin, consultant, RCC; and Rick Ellrod and the undersigned as counsel.

Present for the FCC were Deputy Bureau Chief Catherine Seidel, Uzoma Onyeije, Jeff Steinberg, Shellie Blakeney and Jeannie Kowalski.

The County updated the WTB staff on interference mitigation progress and expressed concern that, despite best efforts, at least eight of the 61 original radio coverage "dead spots" appear to be incapable of resolution even after new portable radios are deployed. Furthermore, it has recently come to the County's attention that Verizon, in addition to Nextel and Cingular, is contributing to the interference problems. (See attached summary.) The County asked for the FCC's active intervention, if and as needed, to resolve such difficult problems.

The County suggested that, until the rulemaking in WT Docket 02-55 is decided and the decision fully implemented, public safety systems experiencing CMRS interference should be presumed

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entitled to cessation of the interference, even if the commercial carrier is operating within the bounds of its radio license.

The County expressed its interest in a systematic way of addressing new or intractable interference issues, and any disagreements of the parties on these problems, outside the framework of the 30-day and 90-day reports called for in the staff Order. The FCC agreed to consider this.

Respectfully submitted,

James R. Hobson

cc: Catherine Seidel

MITIGATION SUMMARY

Original Interference Statistics

Original Number of Interference Sites: 61

Mitigation To Date (7-15/03)

Number of Remaining Interference Sites: **20**

Contributions from Carriers

Nextel Only	6
Cingular Only (A)	0
Verizon Only (B)	0
Nextel/Cingular	6
Cingular/Verizon	2
Nextel/Verizon	2
All three	4

Future Mitigation Efforts

Number of Remaining Interference Sites
after new portables are deployed 8/15/03 to 11/15/03: 8

The new receivers associated with the new 800 Mhz Radio System Upgrade Project have additional interference rejection characteristics.

Contributions from Carriers

Nextel Only	2
Cingular Only (A)	0
Verizon Only (B)	0
Nextel/Cingular	2
Cingular/Verizon	0
Nextel/Verizon	0
All three	4

Number of Remaining Interference Sites *after*
additional tower sites are deployed over next three years: **4**

The County is deploying additional tower sites for in-building coverage performance over the next three years. These towers will provide additional signal for the portables although many of these problem areas currently have signal levels greater than –85 dBm.

Contributions from Carriers

Nextel Only	1
Cingular Only (A)	0
Verizon Only (B)	0
Nextel/Cingular	1
Cingular/Verizon	0
Nextel/Verizon	0
All three	2